

## Listing of the Claims

1. (currently amended) [[A]] In a quick-acting valve, (18) comprising  
a coil (19) supplied by a voltage source (25),  
a voltage-dependent resistor (33) provided between the voltage source  
(25) and the coil (19), and  
an auxiliary voltage source (35) connected in parallel to the coil (19), the  
voltage of said auxiliary voltage source (35) being opposite to that of said voltage  
source (25),  
wherein the voltage-dependent resistor (33) includes a plurality of  
electronic switches (37,38,39) connected in series in the form of a cascade, said  
electronic switches (37,38,39) each bridging a series resistor (44) and being driven into  
the closing state when an input voltage ( $U_e$ ) applied by said voltage source falls below a  
given switching voltage ( $U_s$ ) whereby the electronic switches are driven simultaneously  
into the closing state.
2. (currently amended) The quick-acting valve according to claim 1, wherein  
the auxiliary voltage source (35) comprises at least one Zener diode.
3. (currently amended) The quick-acting valve according to claim 1, wherein  
the auxiliary voltage source (35) is connected in series with a rectifier diode (36) and in  
parallel to the coil (19).
4. (cancelled)
5. (currently amended) The quick-acting valve according to claim 1, wherein  
the switching voltage ( $U_s$ ) is determined by a reference voltage path (46).
6. (currently amended) A quick-acting valve comprising  
a coil supplied by a voltage source,  
a voltage-dependent resistor provided between the voltage source and the  
coil, and

an auxiliary voltage source connected in parallel to the coil, the voltage of said auxiliary voltage source being opposite to that of said voltage source,

wherein the voltage-dependent resistor includes a plurality of electronic switches connected in series in the form of a cascade, said electronic switches each bridging a series resistor and being driven into the closing state when an input voltage applied by said voltage source falls below a given switching voltage, and ~~The quick-acting valve according to claim 1~~

wherein each electronic switch is switched by an auxiliary transistor.

7. (new) The quick-acting valve according to claim 6, wherein the auxiliary voltage source comprises at least one Zener diode.

8. (new) The quick-acting valve according to claim 6, wherein the auxiliary voltage source is connected in series with a rectifier diode and in parallel to the coil.

9. (new) The quick-acting valve according to claim 6, wherein the switching voltage is determined by a reference voltage path.